

# DARKSEED II™

*Based upon the fantastic artwork of* H. R. GIGER

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

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## C Y B E R D R E A M S<sup>®</sup>

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# MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

**DARK SEED II:** 100% compatible PC with a 486 DX/33 processor.

**REQUIRED:** MS-DOS 5.0 or higher, Windows 3.1, 8 MB RAM, 20 MB of hard drive space, double-speed CD-ROM drive and keyboard. (Note: If your system has 8 Mb of RAM, your Windows swap file size must be set to at least 10,000 Kb.)

**GRAPHICS:** VESA compatible 256-color SVGA card.

**MUSIC:** Windows compatible sound card.

# HOW TO INSTALL DARK SEED II

1) Insert the Dark Seed II CD in your CD-ROM drive.

2) From Windows, Open the File menu and select Run. . .

Note: If you are using Windows 95, you need to click the Start button, then select the Run option.

3) In the Command Line section type D:\setup.exe and press [Enter].

Note: If your CD-ROM drive is not the D: drive, substitute the correct drive letter.

4) Within the Dark Seed II Setup screen, you can select the drive and directory you would like to install to. If you have the extra hard drive space, you can select a higher installation level which may speed up cinematic sequences within the game. When you are finished with your choices, click the Install button, then click Yes when you are asked to verify your installation choices.

5) When the installation is complete, the message "Setup Completed" will appear, click OK to proceed.

6) Next, Video for Windows will be installed. If Video for Windows is already on your system, it will be replaced with the latest version. Click Continue to proceed or Exit to cancel the Video for Windows installation. When the installation is complete, click on the Restart Now option so that the new settings can take effect.

7) To play Dark Seed II, double-click the Dark Seed II icon on your desktop.



## THE STORY

Has it only been a year? It really seems like more than a century since I took a leave of absence from my advertising agency. All I wanted was some peace and quiet, a place to sit and contemplate... and write. My life as a successful ad man was going great, but I wanted more. I got more. When I rented my house-my dream house-in Woodland Hills, I had no idea what nightmares would hatch like spider eggs in my mind. There was the living room mirror... and the missing piece that came in the mail. And that was just the start.

Oh, I would rather wipe the whole thing from my memory, but I fear I will never be allowed to forget. No one who has seen the Dark World could ever drive those images from his head. No one. I broke down completely after it was over, and took up unwilling residence in a variety of "rest homes" and mental wards. In those sterile halls

and strapped-down beds, I remembered all too much. There was the Keeper of the Scrolls, who first told me about the Ancients and their evil plots. (Why me? I asked myself again and again.) And the Ancients, themselves. Gruesome. Horrific. Sickening. . .

I thought I had destroyed them when I blew up their spaceship, but the memories. . . the horror. . . would not let me go. I thought I had won, but this past year I've often wondered if death would not have been easier. The dreams. . .

Finally, in a kind of paralyzed daze, I moved back home. Mom was there to take me in, a broken, confused man whose dreams had turned dark and ugly. She didn't really understand my lethargy, my distance. She thought me dreamy; she had no idea what I dreamed. They said I was in good health, but what did they know about the indelible stain of the Dark World?

Being home helped, a little, and I'd even begun to think about the normal matters of life again. The simple things. You know, like dating and having friends. That's where Rita came in. Rita Scanlon, my high school sweetheart. We hadn't seen each other in a long time, but now that I was back, we were getting reacquainted. Although Rita had changed and was more distant, I didn't worry about it - after all, I had also changed, and in stranger ways than most. We went to our high school reunion together, or so they tell me. I don't recall a thing about it. The night vanished, just one big black hole in my memory. I think I got drunk.

I'm certain that I didn't murder Rita, though. How could I have?

It's the Dark World. I know it is. They've found me again, and now they've murdered Rita. Sheriff Butler thinks I did it. He'd never believe the truth. Nobody will believe me.

And my headaches are getting worse. Dr. Sims just keeps giving me medicine and more medicine. He doesn't understand either. I'm tired of being medicated all the time. I'm tired of the headaches. But most of all, I'm scared. The Ancients are back. . .

# GAME CONTROLS

DARK SEED II is most easily played with a two-button Microsoft compatible mouse. If you have a three-button mouse, only the left and right buttons will be active. The corresponding keyboard controls are the SPACE BAR (right mouse button) and [ENTER] key (left mouse button). The cursor arrow keys control directional movement.

On the screen, you will see an arrow-shaped pointer that you control. When your pointer is over a connecting doorway which leads to another room or location, this single arrow pointer changes to four inward-pointing arrows.

To make Mike Dawson move, position the arrow pointer wherever you want him to go and click the left mouse button. Mike will walk to this new position. If there is an unavoidable obstruction in his path, he will stop at the closest possible point. If you press the left mouse button when the multiple arrows are displayed, Mike will walk to the doorway and then to the adjoining location.

Clicking the right mouse button cycles the pointer shape through a "?" (look) shape, a "hand" (use/take/talk) shape and an "ARROW" (go) pointer shape.

When the "?" and "hand" pointers are placed over items which have more information available, or which Mike can pick up or use, the pointer changes shape. The "?" shape changes to a "!", and the "open hand" shape changes to a "pointing finger".

To examine or manipulate an object, select the "?" or "hand" icon using the right mouse button, place it over the desired object, and click the left mouse button to activate. If you use the "hand" icon to pick up an object, it is added to your inventory. (For more info on inventory, see "Your Inventory" below.)

## Keyboard Controls

**Spacebar** Same as right mouse button.

**Enter** Same as Left mouse button.

**Note:** The arrow keys or numeric keypad can be used to control directional movement of the pointer.

**D** Sound On/Off

**P** Pause Game

**F1** Help

**F6** New Game

**F8** Save Game

**F11** Walk Speed

**M** Music On/Off

**A** About Box

**F2** Options

**F7** Load Game

**F9** Boss Key On/Off

**Boss Key** - The Boss Key can be activated by pressing the [F9] key. This option will instantly suspend your game and change your screen to something that looks a bit more productive. Press the [F9] key again to return to the game.

**Walk Speed** - The Walk Speed key can be activated by pressing the [F11] key. This option will allow you to control how fast Mike Dawson walks. Each time you press the [F11] key, you will toggle between Slow, Medium, and Fast mode.

# GAME OPTIONS

You may access the game option menus by moving the pointer to the top of the screen. There are three menus: File, Option!, and Help.

Choose the **File** menu to start a new game, to load an existing saved game, to save the current game in progress, or to exit back to the operating system.

Choose the **Option!** menu to display a dialog box with several settings for how the game's graphics and sound are played. Options include sound effect and music volume, type of music playback you want, text display speed, animation resolution, dialog options, and whether to skip or play transitional animations.

Choose the **Help** menu for instructions on how to play Dark Seed II.

## The File Menu

To restart, save, load, or quit a game in progress, move the pointer to the top of the screen. A Windows menu bar will appear. Place the pointer over the File menu and click the left mouse button to reveal the following options:

### New Game

To start a new game from the beginning, click on New Game or press F6. An alert box will appear asking if you really want to start a new game. Click the **Yes** button to start a new game from the beginning. Click on the **NO** button if you change your mind and want to return to your game in progress.



## Load Game

To load a previously saved game, select **Load Game** from the **File** menu or press **F7**. You'll see a window with ten save-game slots. Click on the radio button to the left of the save-game slot you want to load, then click on **Load** at the bottom of the window. If you change your mind, click on the **Cancel** button at the bottom of the window.

## Save Game

To save a game in progress, select **Save Game** from the **File** menu or press **F8**. You'll see a window with ten save-game slots. Click on the radio button to the left of one of the empty save-game slots and then type in some descriptive text to remind you where you were in the game. Finally, click on the **Save** button at the bottom of the window. If you change your mind, click on the **Cancel** button at the bottom of the window. If you want to re-use one of the slots, simply select that one and type a new description there.

An alert box will appear and ask you if you want to overwrite the previous game. Click **Yes** or **No**.

## Exit

To quit the game at any time, select **Exit** from the **File** menu or press the **ESC** key on your keyboard. You will be asked if you want to save your current game. Click on the **Yes** or **No** button, and the game will end. If you change your mind, click on the **Cancel** button.



## The Option! Menu

To access the Option! menu, move the pointer to the top of the screen and then click on the word **Option!** to open the Play Setting dialog box. There are several options available in this dialog box:

**Sound Effect Volume:** Use the mouse to move the slider to the right to raise the volume; to the left to lower the volume of the game's sound effects and dialogue.

**Sound Effects Disable:** Click here to disable all sound effects and dialogue.

**Music Volume:** Use the mouse to move the slider to the right to raise the music volume; to the left to lower the music volume.

**Music Disable:** Click here to disable all music.

**Music Type:** Select either General MIDI or FM MIDI, depending on the type of sound card you have.

**Text Display Speed:** Click on the radio button that represents the text display speed you prefer. You may choose **Fast**, **Medium**, or **Slow** or **Click**. If you select **Click**, the text will not advance until you click the left mouse button.

**Animations:** Click on the appropriate resolution for animations. If you aren't sure what your display card can handle, use the default setting.

**Dialog Option:** Choose the radio button that represents the way you want dialog to be presented in the game. You can have both audio and text, audio only, or text only.



**Skip Transitional Animations:** Click on the checkbox if you do not want to view the animations that sometimes appear when you travel to a new location. Even if you skip Transitional Animations, you will still get all the information necessary for solving the mystery.

## The Help Menu

To access the Help menu, move the pointer to the top of the screen and then click on the word **Help**. An online version of this manual will initiate, allowing you to more easily search for a topic. You can also access the help menu by pressing the [F1] key.

# CONVERSATIONS

When Mike is talking with another character, a Conversation Window will appear at the bottom of the screen. The Conversation Window contains the choices that Mike can make during a conversation. To have Mike say something, move the pointer over the text you want (the selected text will turn white) and click the left mouse button. Mike will then speak the words aloud and the

other character will reply. When the other character has finished speaking, you may select another option unless the conversation has ended. Clicking on the right mouse button when another character is talking will cause the current speech to end, presenting your next option. Be careful not to click too quickly; you might miss a character's response. When the conversation is over, the Conversation Window will disappear.

To the left of the Conversation Window is a skull icon. When more than three conversation choices are available, arrows will appear allowing you to scroll up or down through additional conversation choices. Be sure to check for these arrows after another character has spoken. The Conversation Window only shows three lines of text at a time. If the arrows appear, you have more conversation choices that you should consider. Use the arrows to scroll all the way to the end before selecting an option. What you choose for Mike to say can radically affect the game, so choose with care.



# YOUR INVENTORY

To view your current inventory, move the pointer to the bottom of the screen. The inventory window will appear at the bottom of the game window. At the beginning of the game, there is nothing in your inventory, but when you collect items, they will appear as icons in the inventory window. To examine an item in your inventory, place the “?” pointer over the inventory item and click the left mouse button. To use something in your inventory, use the “hand” pointer. When you click on the item, the pointer will change to the shape of the item selected. Now you may move the pointer and click where you want to use the inventory item. You may move the pointer anywhere on the game screen or even over other inventory items. You’ll notice that the pointer will appear as the “hand” shape unless it is over something that can be manipulated or affected by the item you chose. To de-select an inventory item after you’ve selected it, press the right mouse button; the item will remain in your inventory.

If you have more items in your inventory than will fit in the inventory window, arrow icons will appear at the left and right edges of the inventory window. Click on these arrows to scroll through items that are currently not displayed.

## HELPFUL HINTS

At the start of Mike's adventure, you will only catch glimpses of the Dark World through Mike's dreams. As you delve deeper into the mystery of Rita's murder, Mike will have an opportunity to travel to the Dark World again.

To clear his name, Mike will have to play the role of detective. As he gathers more and more information, be sure to visit suspects and other sources of information again. A new piece of evidence may inspire Mike to notice details he had overlooked on first inspection.

If you can't decide what lead to follow next, sit on the bench at Mike's front porch to see if his friend Jack is cruising the neighborhood. Jack is a good source of information about the town's dirty little secrets.

Whenever Mike gets a headache, go to Dr. Sims office for therapy sessions. Mike's hypnosis-induced dreams can provide him insight into what happened during the night of the high school reunion.

Remember that the Dark World is a parallel to our Normal World. Actions in one universe can impact the other universe, particularly where the convergence is strongest.

Thoroughly explore any mazes you encounter. One maze has a secret that you must exploit to thwart the Ancients' plans.

Save your game frequently, especially if you are about to try something dangerous or talk to an armed Dark Worlder. Mike can die in the Dark World if he makes too many mistakes.

Pay attention to the changes in the pointer shapes as you move them over objects and backgrounds. They provide important clues about your environment.

# BEGINNING WALKTHROUGH

This short walkthrough is intended to help you familiarize yourself with the way Dark Seed II works. It isn't meant to take you very far into the game, but simply to show you how to use the Conversation Window and how to explore the world.

## Mike's Bedroom

At the beginning of the game, Sheriff Butler shows up at Mike's door and questions him about Rita's murder. In this conversation, it doesn't matter too much which options you choose, but some options will reveal a lot more information. Some of that information might turn out to be useful later in the game, although obvious statements, like those about being late for the doctor, or having a headache, will bring the conversation to a close.



When Mike's conversation with the Sheriff is over, the Sheriff will leave. Now you can explore Mike's bedroom. This is a chance to familiarize yourself with the game controls.

1. Click the right mouse button a few times and notice how the pointer changes shape. The arrow-shaped icon is the Go pointer. Use the Go pointer to move Mike from one place to another. The exclamation point icon is the Look pointer. Use this pointer when you want to learn about something you see on the screen. The hand icon is the Use pointer. Use this pointer when you want to pick up or manipulate something on the screen or in Mike's inventory.

Note that when you are using the Look pointer, it may appear as a question mark icon. Move it around on the screen until it turns into an exclamation point, then click to get information about the object underneath the pointer. Also, although you will use the Go (arrow) pointer to make Mike move around, Mike will also move if you click on an object with either the Use (hand) or the Look (exclamation point) pointer.

**Keyboard Note:** If you prefer to play from a keyboard, you can toggle between each of the three pointers by pressing the **Spacebar**. You can then use the selected pointer by pressing the **[Enter]** key.

2. Change the pointer to either the Use or Look icons and move the mouse around. Notice that the pointers change shape to indicate whether you can interact with a part of the room. For instance, moving either pointer from the blank wall to the poster of the swashbuckling swordsman above the bed causes the icon to change a "?" to a "!". When the look icon changes to an exclamation point, click the left mouse button to get information about the poster. You'll hear a voice-over comment from Mike. Listen carefully to what he says; there may be a clue in it.

3. Next, use the Look pointer to examine the trophy, by clicking the left mouse button when the icon is directly over the trophy. Listen to what Mike says.

4. Click on the closet door with the Look pointer, and, again, listen to Mike.

5. Now you can explore other items in the room if you wish, but when you're ready, switch to the Go pointer (Arrow) by clicking the right mouse button. Next, move the Go pointer over the exit door on the far right of the screen. The Go pointer will change to the shape of four arrows pointing inward. Click the left mouse button. This will cause Mike to leave the room and enter the Kitchen.

## THE KITCHEN

Now you're in the Kitchen. Mike's mother, Mrs. Dawson, is busy at the stove, as usual. Perhaps she has something interesting to say. . .

6. With the Use pointer, click on Mom. During this first conversation with Mom, you can discover a few more background facts, but nothing critical. If Mike mentions that he's getting a headache, Mrs. Dawson will remind him of his medicine. "That's what it's for," she says.

7. Once you've completed the first conversation with Mom, and she returns to her cooking, click on her again to get a clue about watching television.

8. With the Look pointer, examine the room. You'll notice some objects on the refrigerator.

9. Switch to the Use pointer and click on the happy-face magnet. Mike will take the magnet and put it in his pocket.

10. Now move the pointer to the bottom of the screen. The Inventory Window will appear, and you'll see that the magnet has been added to Mike's inventory.

If you click on the magnet (or any object in inventory) with the Look pointer, Mike will make some comment or observation about the object. If you click on the magnet (or any object in inventory) with the Use pointer, the pointer will change to a shape that resembles the object you've selected. Try it.

11. With the Use pointer active, click on the magnet and then move the pointer around in the room.



Notice that the pointer looks like a hand until you place it over the refrigerator. Then it changes to look like the magnet. This tells you that the magnet can be used with the refrigerator. If you click on the refrigerator now, Mike will return the magnet. To put the magnet back in Mike's inventory, drag the pointer to the bottom of the screen again, opening the Inventory Window, and click on the magnet again.

12. Assuming you still have the magnet, there's not much more to do here. Perhaps you will find something to do in the Living Room. With the Move pointer, click on the door to the right.

Now you're on your own. Good luck. Oh, and if you really need more help...

**IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL GAME PLAY HINTS, YOU CAN REACH OUR  
HINT LINE AT 1-900-407-HINT (4468)**

You must have a touch-tone phone to use this service. The hint line is available 24 hours a day. The charge is \$.95 per minute. You must be 18 or have parental permission to use this service. Cyberdreams, Inc. Calabasas, CA.

**OR YOU CAN PURCHASE THE OFFICIAL STRATEGY GUIDE BY CALLING THE CYBERDREAMS  
ORDER LINE AT 818-225-1049**

The Dark Seed II Official Strategy Guide is only \$19.95 + \$6.50 for shipping in the USA, California residents add 8.25% sales tax. Canadian orders add \$9.50 (US currency only) for shipping. Visa or Mastercard accepted.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

## Video Problems

Verify that your screen resolution is 640x480 8 bits (256 colors), for best results and that you are using the most current driver for your video card. Contact your video card manufacturer for more information.

## Audio Problems

Ensure your sound card is properly installed and verify that all required sound card drivers are installed in Windows. For more information, consult your Windows or sound card manual, or contact your sound card manufacturer.

## Mouse Problems

Make sure you are using a 100% Microsoft compatible mouse.

## No Multi-tasking

Because of the large amount of system resources that Dark Seed II requires, you should not attempt to use any multi-tasking functions or run other programs while playing Dark Seed II.

## Screen Savers and Audio Clips

While using Dark Seed II you should disable any screen savers or audio clip software that are enabled.

## Window Swap File (for Windows 3.1 or 3.11)

Dark Seed II uses the windows swap file to speed up game play. If you have a system with 8Mb of RAM or less, you will need to verify that your swap file size is at least 10.000 KB. If your system contains 16Mb of RAM, you can set the swap file to as little as 4,096 KB. We also recommend that you change to a permanent swap file rather than a temporary setting.

To check how much memory has been allocated in your swap file settings and make changes, do the following:

- 1) Activate the Windows Control Panel by double-clicking on the Windows Control Panel Icon, then double-click on the 386 Enhanced Icon.
- 2) Within the 386 Enhanced window, click on the Virtual Memory... button
- 3) Verify that the Swap file size is at least 10.000 KB if your system has 8Mb of RAM or less. If your system has 16Mb of RAM, you can set your swap file to as little as 4,096 KB.
- 4) To make changes to your Swap File Settings, click on the Change>> Button.
- 5) In the New Size: box located in the lower section of the Virtual Memory window, type in the new size. Also verify that your swap file type is set to permanent in the Type: section.
- 6) Click OK, then click Yes to save your changes. next, click on the Restart Windows button to make Windows restart with your new settings.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

If you are experiencing technical difficulties with Dark Seed II and you are a registered user, you may call our technical support department for assistance at (818) 222-9348. Cyberdreams technical support is available during normal business hours (Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm PST). To better serve you, please have information regarding the manufacturer, model, operating system, available memory and system configuration of your computer when you contact us.

If you have a modem, you can also contact us through our Bulletin Board Service by dialing (818) 223-8739.

### On-line Support Via CompuServe

For on-line support of Dark Seed II via CompuServe, call (800) 524-3388 (in North America) and ask for representative #503 to get your FREE introductory membership and \$15.00 usage credit. If you are already a member of CompuServe, type the command GO GAMAPUB at any ! prompt to get the Cyberdreams support area (Section/Library 5), or contact our technical support department at ID# 72662,120.

## ABOUT H. R. GIGER

H.R. Giger was born in Chur, Switzerland in 1940. As a child, he developed a powerful fascination with all things surreal and macabre. His need to express himself and share the unique aspects of his vivid imagination drew him to the visual arts. Giger's own dreams and the brilliant imagery of such fantastique geniuses as Gustav Meyrink, Jean Cocteau, Alfred Kubin and H.P. Lovecraft, combined to form a rich soil from which the amazing imagery of Giger's art has come to sprout. It has grown into the vast canon of exotic women, wondrously disturbing landscapes and frightening creatures that has captured the fascination of millions of fans worldwide.

Meticulously detailed, Giger's paintings are done on large canvases and worked and reworked by this maestro of the airbrush. It was Giger's popular art book, *Necronomicon*, that caught the eye of director Ridley Scott as he was searching for the right look for a creature in his upcoming film. That creature, of course, turned out to be the Alien, and Giger's masterful designs for the film of that same name garnered him a much deserved Academy Award.

Giger's fascinating biomechanical style, that brilliant synthesis of flesh and machine, has been realized not only through his paintings, but also through sculpture pieces, elegant furniture, and architectural and interior design projects. His paintings have been displayed in galleries and museums throughout the world. H.R. Giger has earned his place in the international art scene.

"Giger is the master of fantastic art"

OMNI MAGAZINE

"Giger's Oscar-winning work on ALIEN changed the look of science fiction"

CINEFANTASTIQUE

"Giger knows what we fear"

HARLAN ELLISON

"his silence is as profound as his genius"

CLIVE BARKER

"One of Europe's leading fabulist artists"

PENTHOUSE

"Brilliantly perverse"

NEWSWEEK

"The evolutionary genius. . . Giger"

TIMOTHY LEARY

"H.R. Giger creates eerie erotic fantasies with a nightmare imagination and an airbrush"

PEOPLE MAGAZINE

# THE MAKING OF DARK SEED II

"It's beautiful!" was H. R. Giger's enthusiastic reaction upon seeing the original Dark Seed for the first time. As a world-renowned fine artist, Giger was skeptical when Cyberdreams initially approached him about creating a computer game based upon his macabre "biomechanical" landscapes. He agreed to grant Cyberdreams access to his body of work only after lengthy negotiations. But when Giger saw the great care that Cyberdreams had taken to preserve the elements of his art, he was pleased with how effectively his images translated to an interactive environment. Game players were equally pleased with Dark Seed. The game became a sleeper hit, winning the Software Publishers Association's 1993 Excellence in Software Award for Best Fantasy Role-Playing/Adventure Game.

Dark Seed players wanted to see more of hero Mike Dawson's nightmarish journey into Giger's Dark World, and so Cyberdreams brought in game producer David Mullich to create the sequel. Not only had Mullich developed other adventure games with dark psychological themes such as *The Prisoner* and *I Have No Mouth, And I Must Scream*, he also admitted to being a Giger fan since high school, when he bought an Emerson, Lake and Palmer album with a cover designed by the Swiss surrealist. With the goal of surpassing the high standards set by the original Dark Seed, he assembled a development team of the most talented and demented minds working in interactive entertainment.

Since Giger's disturbing images have had such a profound impact on science fiction literature and cinema — he designed creatures appearing in the films *Alien*, *Poltergeist II* and *Species* — it seemed fitting that the sequel should have a literary quality. Designer Raymond Benson, whose software credits include Stephen King's *The Mist*, *Ultima VII - The Black Gate*, *Return of the Phantom* and *Are You Afraid Of The Dark?*, was commissioned to write a story that continued Mike Dawson's horrifying adventures. Instructed that the sequel also must take Mike Dawson from our Normal World into Giger's Dark World, Benson crafted a psychological murder mystery that begins in a quirky, "David Lynchian" small town and draws us into a terrifying alternate universe that is a

metaphor for madness. Those who reach the game's chilling conclusion will appreciate how well Benson's tale allegorizes what Giger says about his art: "I expel these creatures, and their pain, by painting them onto a surface, trapping them forever. In a somewhat symbolic manner, I also free myself."

Giger later requested that the sequel include images that had recently been haunting him, including a sled carrying a vat down the banister of an endless staircase (inspired by Giger's "Shaft" pieces). Since Benson had moved on to other projects, Cyberdreams consulted science fiction author John Shirley (The Eclipse Trilogy, and the screenplay for "The Crow") on how to fit Giger's visuals into the sequel, and he also contributed many additional ideas for fleshing out the Dark World. To put the finishing touches on the game dialogue, Cyberdreams brought in Keith Herber, a horror author who edited the Call of Cthulhu role-playing game and is an expert on H. P. Lovecraft.

Once the game design was completed, Cyberdreams hired Destiny Software Productions of Vancouver, Canada to implement it. For the original Dark Seed, Giger had insisted that Cyberdreams use a high resolution VGA graphics mode (640 by 350 pixels, 16 colors) to avoid the "square and jagged" look found in most computer games of the time. So that the sequel would also be visually cutting edge, Destiny's programming team enhanced their graphics routines to support an even more advanced graphics mode, SVGA (640 x 480 pixels, 256 colors), while running under a Windows or Windows 95 environment.

To create the character animations of Mike Dawson and the other Normal World denizens, Destiny photographed the movements of live models with a high speed camera, scanned the photographs into digital form, and played images back as animations. In addition to professional performers, some of Destiny's staff members volunteered to be character models. By a happy coincidence, artist Chris Gilbert was a dead-ringer for the Mike Dawson character from the original Dark Seed.

The art team at Destiny also proved to be skilled at combining a variety of imagery from Giger's fantastic art-

work and using both 2-D and 3-D techniques to create new Dark World backgrounds. Several months into the project's development, Mullich, Cyberdreams' art director Peter Delgado, and Destiny artist Gregg Haggman visited Giger's home in Zurich to show off their progress. Giger was very impressed with the graphic improvements over the original Dark Seed, and offered many helpful suggestions about scaling, placement and composition. One of his most significant contributions was the placement of metal catwalks throughout the Dark World, so that Mike Dawson would always feel in peril, being continuously suspended over a bottomless pit.

So that the Normal World would have an equally distinct look, Cyberdreams enlisted the talents of artist Jeff Hilbers to create the Normal World backgrounds. Hilbers, who has previously served as art director on producer Mullich's projects when both were at The Walt Disney Company, brought his unique sense of the macabre to Mike Dawson's home town. The quaint images of what superficially appears to be a pleasant community proves on closer inspection to be infected with perversity, symbolizing the Dark World's growing influence on Crowley, Texas.

Audio was the final element needed to immerse you into Giger's ghastly universe. Cyberdreams commissioned television and film composer Mark Morgan (Stephen King's *The Stand* television mini-series) to write more than 20 pieces of original MIDI music for the adventure, which music producer David B. Schultz of DBS Music then specially arranged for optimum performance on the Sound Blaster AWE32 card. Destiny Software Productions then added haunting sound effects and ambiance through the game.

With more than forty speaking parts in the adventure, Cyberdreams contracted Lisa Wasserman of Virtual Casting to cast and direct some of the finest voice-over actors performing in interactive entertainment. The dialogue sessions were recorded at Lucas Art's old Skywalker Sound facilities in Los Angeles by Cheshire Multimedia Sound. Sound engineers Todd Bozung and Greg Chapman digitally enhanced many of the voices to help dramatize Giger's world of biomechanoids, goddesses and diabolical creatures.

Upholding Cyberdreams' reputation for innovative packaging, Director of Sales and Marketing Andrew Balzer commissioned Bright & Associates to create a box design that was as provocative as the adventure contained within. The box showcases a portion of Giger's 1978 piece "Illuminatus I," in which a woman's cheek is pierced by her safety-pin sunglasses. The adventure will be made available through the efforts of Cyberdreams Sales & Marketing team of Andrew Balzer and Daniel Pelli together with MGM Interactive (responsible for North American distribution) and Cyberdreams' foreign distributors.

The production, development and marketing team for Dark Seed II have unleashed a new horror into Mike Dawson's unending nightmare. As you take this dark journey into the depths of madness, we hope that, as Giger tries to do with his own artwork, you free yourself of some of your own demons.

# ABOUT CYBERDREAMS

Cyberdreams was formed to create high quality interactive entertainment software for home computers and dedicated game systems. Each product is designed, scripted and story boarded by game play experts and world famous artists, designers, writers and filmmakers such as H.R. Giger (*Alien*, *Species*), Syd Mead (*Blade Runner*, *Tron*, 2010), Harlan Ellison (the most honored author in the world of imaginative literature) and Wes Craven (creator of *A Nightmare on Elm Street*). Cyberdreams' audience is adult science-fiction enthusiasts who appreciate sophisticated storylines, state-of-the-art animation and cutting-edge interactive technology.

# CREDITS

Published And Created By  
CYBERDREAMS, INC.

BASED ON THE FANTASTIC ARTWORK OF H.R. GIGER

Written And Designed By

Story Consultant

Additional Dialogue

Producer

Art Director, Dark World

Art Director, Normal World

Marketing & Sales

Quality Assurance Manager

Lead Test

Raymond Benso

John Shirley

Keith Herber

David Mullich

Peter Delgado

Jeff Hilbers

Andrew Balzer

Daniel Pelli

MGM Interactive

John G. Fair, Jr.

Danny Lee

Published And Created By  
CYBERDREAMS, INC.

Tester

Technical Review Board

Music Composition

Music Arrangement  
& Production

Voice Casting & Direction

Voice Recording & Digitizing

Production & Documentation

Packaging Design

Chris Klug

Michael G. Buscher  
Jani Peltonen

Mark Morgan

David B. Schultz

Virtual Casting

Cheshire Multimedia  
Sound

Michael G. Buscher

Bright & Associates

# Programming, Art and Sound Effects By DESTINY SOFTWARE PRODUCTIONS, INC.

Programmers

William C. W. Tsui  
Bo Yang

3-D Artist/Animators

Gregg Haggman  
JJ. Gonzales  
Chris Gilbert

2-D Artists/Animators

Jeff Buchwitz  
Patrick Arce  
Rolando Espinoza

Clean-Up Artists

Cathy Burton  
Emily Lo  
Lee Patterson

Development Producer

Steve Vestergaard

Development Director

Michael Hiebert

## Photography Models

Mike Dawson

Barker #1

Barker #2

Barker #3

Deputy Brown

Sheriff Butler

Carnival Clown

Paul Cooper

Mrs. Dawson

Young Mike Dawson

Mayor Irving Fleming

Melissa Fleming

FBI Agent Gannon

Jimmy Gardner

Gargan the Strongman

Hank

Jack

Doc Larson

Minnie & Daisy

Pandora

Mrs. Ramirez

Rita Scanlon

Dr. Jethro Sims

Slim

Chris Gilbert

Patrick Arce

J.J. Gonzales

Gregg Haggman

Jeff Buchwitz

Michael Hiebert

Manjit Bedi

Richard Bradbury

Bernice Bull

Danny Hiebert

Erik Vestergaard

Cathy Burton

Dan Johnson

Chaz Green

John Andal

Abe Hiebert

Devin Isaak

John Hiebert

Beverley Jane Clowes

Karla Cummins

Gina Vestergaard

Sarah Stone

Lou Bouthot

Steve Vestergaard

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